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LINDA E. HASTINGS

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**Attorney Docket No.: NEKA 18.612 (100806-00199)**

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

Inventor: Yoshihisa MATSUBARA et al.

Serial No.: 09/840,386

Filed: April 23, 2001

Title: **METHOD FOR MANUFACTURING SEMICONDUCTOR  
DEVICE, AND PROCESSING SYSTEM AND  
SEMICONDUCTOR DEVICE**

Examiner: Lan Vinh

Group Art Unit: 1765

Commissioner for Patents  
P. O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

**RESPONSE TO OFFICE ACTION UNDER 37 C.F.R. 1.116**

S I R:

In response to the Office Action mailed on January 21, 2004, the period for responding thereto having been set to expire after April 21, 2004, the period for response not being extended for more than one month, please consider the following remarks: